

Where do we rank?

Health Outcomes

Health outcomes are measures that describe the current health status of a county. They are based on an equal weighting of mortality and morbidity measures. Mortality is the measure of premature death while morbidity is the measure of poor or fair health, poor physical health days, poor mental health days, and low birth weight.

For 2013, Seminole County ranks at **#4** for Health Outcomes among the 67 counties in Florida.



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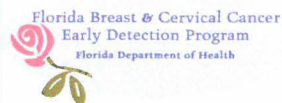
The Strategic Planning Process

The Florida Department of Health, Seminole County continues to work toward becoming a high functioning, well-respected and productive health care facility. Its journey toward achieving excellence at all levels and becoming one of the country's premier comprehensive health resources is guided by a strategic vision that reflects and incorporates the [State Health Improvement Plan](#).

The Strategic Plan 2013-2015 is an internal document that has been developed as a roadmap for improving every aspect of healthcare performance. Its stated objective is that the Florida Department of Health, Seminole County "will plan and partner with local organizations to create by 2015 a more sustainable health delivery system that enhances the individual's experience of care (quality and satisfaction), reduces the per capita cost of health care, and improves health outcomes of the community." This plan is a process, not a product; a journey, not a destination and will need everyone's engagement to be fulfilled. As such, this newsletter will provide a place for all of us to see where we are on this journey and the steps we are taking along the way.

[State Health Improvement Plan](#) - The Florida Department of Health created a State Health Improvement Plan which outlines the goals, strategies and objectives for health protection, chronic disease prevention, community partnerships and redevelopment, access to care and health and finance infrastructure. This plan provides the FDOH, Seminole County office supplemental information as to the direction and foundation for the overarching Florida Department of Health mission, vision and values.



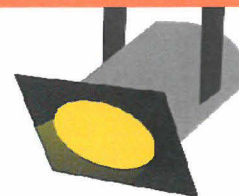


On May 21, 2013, Holly Soucy attended the American Cancer Society's Continuing Education as a representative of the Department of Health. This meeting was attended by physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. The subjects presented were updates on breast and cervical screening, and preventing medical errors. Holly distributed information about HPV and cervical cancer, answered questions about the updates presented and educated the attendees regarding the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection program.



On May 10, Herronda Mortimer, WIC's Breastfeeding Coordinator, spoke about BF and WIC at the Head Start/4C Baby Shower at First Presbyterian Church in Sanford. This event was the 1st of its kind for Head Start which now provides services to prenatal clients who have children enrolled in the Head Start Program.

Program Spotlight



Florida's Healthy Start initiative was signed into law on June 4, 1991. Healthy Start legislation provides for universal risk screening of all Florida's pregnant women and newborn infants to identify those at risk of poor birth, health and developmental outcomes. Healthy Start includes targeted support services that address identified risks. The range of Healthy Start services available to pregnant women, infants and children up to age three include:

- Information and referral
- Comprehensive assessment of service needs in light of family and community resources
- Ongoing care coordination and support to assure access to needed services
- Psychosocial, nutritional and smoking cessation counseling
- Childbirth, breastfeeding and parenting support and education
- Home visits

Since 2008, Healthy Start has had a 53.8% increase in the number of services offered to our clients. While the Seminole County birth rate



dropped from 4,630 births in 2008 to 4,410 births in 2012, our Healthy Start program has increased the number of women and infants served from 4,592 in 2008 to, 5,529 in 2012.

Healthy Start care coordinators have been trained in Florida State University's Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculum and use the curriculum to deliver education to our moms and dads. This fiscal year we joined in partnership with the Orange County Coalition to deliver the Boot Camp for New Dads program. This one day session is only open to new dads and their infants and provides dads with education about caring for their babies and the moms.

Healthy Start is also developing a Mom store that will be stocked with new baby items. Healthy Start clients (moms, dads and babies) will earn points for participating in various educational events and attending scheduled medical Appointments. The "store" will

allow Healthy Start clients to "purchase" new baby items with the points they have earned.

Healthy Start has also started a "I Love My Baby Class" for prenatal moms and moms of infants who are Healthy Start clients. The groups meet once a month and cover topics such as newborn baby care, comforting techniques, eating and sleeping, diapering, etc.

Dr. Jett has asked Healthy Start to develop new strategies to reduce the Black-White Disparities in Infant Mortality in Seminole County. We have formed a work group that consists of Eunice McIntosh, Alfredo Maldonado, Nilda Fres, Lena Raveneau and Mary Ann Rosenbauer to work on this effort. Using some continuous quality improvement tools, we are developing an aim statement, identifying trends and possible root causes for both the death cases and the low birth weight cases in our county. Healthy Start looks forward to this new initiative and assuring that Seminole County babies have the Healthy Start that they deserve.



Electronic Health Record

What is an EHR?

An electronic health record (EHR)—sometimes called an electronic medical record (EMR)—allows healthcare providers to record patient information electronically instead of using paper records. However, EHRs are often capable of doing much more. The HITECH Act (enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) authorized federal monies to be set aside for the express purpose of encouraging (and rewarding) physicians and other clinicians who adopt EHRs before 2015, when they are set to become the industry standard.

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) is currently developing its own Electronic Health Record using its own existing Health Management System (HMS) as a foundation. Development of the Florida EHR began in 2008 with the input of in-house clinicians and medical staff across the state in addition to information received from external resources such as the American

Academy of Pediatrics, WHO, CDC, Centers for Medicaid and Medicare.

The EHR is being developed by component as a series of collective projects.

These include Adult Core Content, Pediatric Core Content, Electronic Laboratory Ordering and Resulting, Electronic Prescribing, Program Specific Templates, Electronic Patient Summaries, Quality Measures in Reporting and Health Information Exchange. The Adult Core and Pediatric Core content as well as E-Labs is available for use.

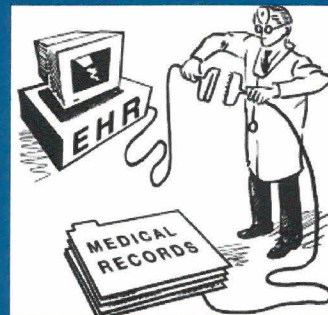
The Department's EHR begins with the Clinician Portal in HMS. The Clinician portal provides users with a detailed overview of the most pertinent client information as well as quick access to most modules within HMS. Access to the portal will only be granted to County Health Department clinical staff.

The Seminole County Health Department the Phased Roll Out Plan was adopted and EHR was implemented in March 2012 with the electronic recording of Vitals and Measures in the Primary Care Clinic. Use of the electronic

Medical History was added followed by E-Labs review of lab results by physicians. The use of E-Prescribing followed. Since program templates are still being developed Hot Keys have been designed and added to the EHR to facilitate the migration to a paperless record for certain visits such as Family Planning, Well Child and School Physicals. Training continues regularly for nurses and physicians. Clinical staff participate weekly in a Clinical Development Workgroup and a monthly DOH web-ex meeting. Each exam room is equipped with a Virtual Desktop(VDI) in a box. In the near future Front Desk processes and Medical Records processes will be evaluated for conversion to the EHR system. We recently received a site visit from DOH staff to review the implementation experience. The HMS EHR is now certified and the logo is displayed on the HMS website.

6 Benefits of EHRs

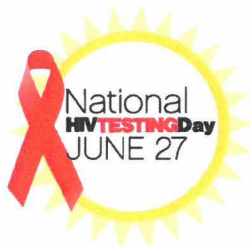
- Information is available instantly whenever and wherever needed
- Brings together in one place everything about a patient's health
- Reduces errors in documentation
- Increases patient safety by helping prevent the loss of medical information and misplaced paper charts
- Improved clinic work flow and greater efficiency
- Financial benefits: The Federal Government provides financial incentive dollars to organizations through meaningful use of a certified EHR



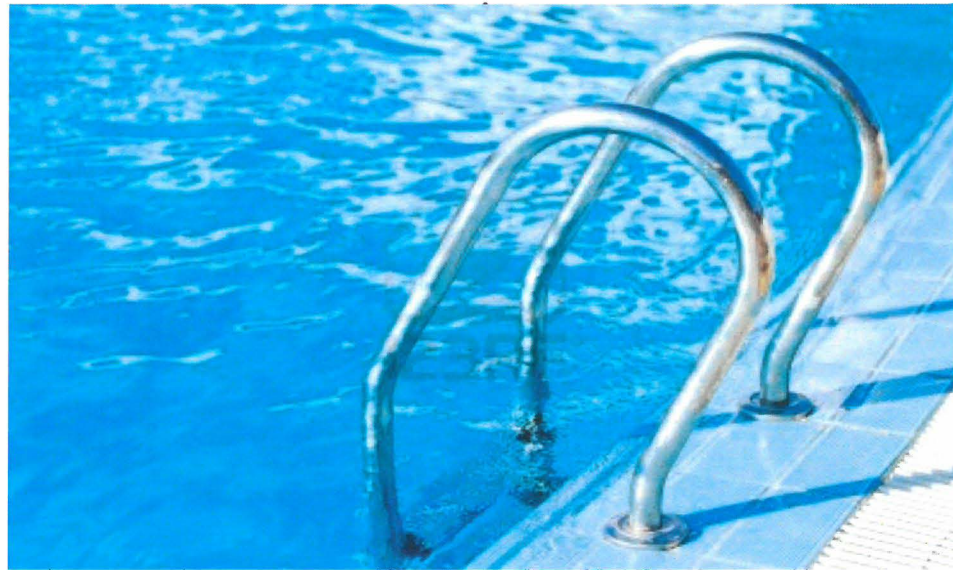
Health Department gives tips on recreational water illnesses

Epidemiology

Recreational Water Illness (RWI) is of particular concern at this time of year as swimming pools and other recreational water venues see increased use. An article in the Sanford Herald on May 22nd addressed these concerns and featured a statement by our own Dr. Jett. —————>



National HIV Testing Day (NHTD) is an annual campaign to encourage people of all ages to "Take the Test, Take Control." Too many people don't know that they have HIV. In the United States, nearly 1.2 million people are living with HIV, and almost one in five don't know they are infected. Getting tested is the first step. Free HIV Testing will be available here at the Health Department from 8:00 —11:00 am on June 27th.



Special to the Herald

The week before Memorial Day (May 20–26) is Recreational Water Illness and Injury (RWII) Prevention Week.

Every year, thousands of Americans get sick with recreational water illnesses (RWIs), which are caused by germs found in places where we swim. The Department of Health in Seminole County is highlighting the importance of preventing these illnesses by emphasizing healthy swimming behaviors.

Recreational water illnesses (RWIs) are caused by germs spread by swallowing, breathing in mists or aerosols, or having contact with contaminated water in swimming pools, hot tubs, water parks, water play areas, interactive fountains, lakes, rivers, or oceans.

RWIs can also be caused by chemicals in the water or chemicals that evaporate from the water and cause indoor air quality problems. Diarrhea is the most common route of infection for RWI, and it is often caused by germs like Crypto (short for *Cryptosporidium*), *Giardia*, norovirus, *Shigella*, and *E. coli* O157:H7. Other routes of infection for common RWIs include skin, ear, respiratory, eye, neurologic, and wound infections.

"Chlorine and other pool water treatments don't kill germs instantly, and just one diarrheal incident can release enough germs into the water that swallowing a mouthful can cause diarrhea lasting up to 2–3 weeks" said Dr. Swannie Jett, Health Officer for the Department of Health in Seminole County.

"Children, pregnant women, and people

with weakened immune systems are most at risk for RWIs," said Dr. Kevin Sherin, Director of the Department of Health in Orange County. Anyone who is ill should also avoid swimming until their symptoms have passed."

We all share the water we swim in, and we each need to do our part to keep ourselves, our families, and our friends healthy. To help protect yourself and other swimmers from germs, here are a few simple and effective steps all swimmers can take each time we swim:

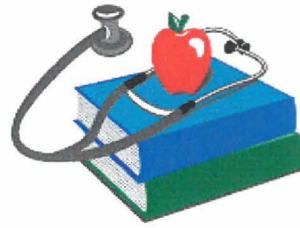
- Don't swim when you have diarrhea.
- Shower with soap before you start swimming.
- Take a rinse shower before you get back into the water.
- Take bathroom breaks every 60 minutes.
- Wash your hands after using the toilet or changing diapers.
- Check the chlorine and pH levels before getting into the water. – Proper chlorine (1–3 mg/L or parts per million (ppm)) and pH (7.2–7.8) levels maximize germ-killing power. Most superstores, hardware stores, and pool-supply stores sell pool test strips.
- Don't swallow the water you swim in. – Parents of young children should take a few extra steps: Take children on bathroom breaks every 60 minutes or check diapers every 30–60 minutes. Change diapers in the bathroom or diaper-changing area and not at poolside where germs can rinse into the water.

For more information about healthy swimming, visit www.cdc.gov/healthyswimming.

TB

The TB staff recently participated in the Refugee Health Consultation in Orlando. They received updates on funding for refugees, targeted populations and community resources. The TB Division continues to have a steady referral source from Catholic Charities and Lutheran Services. They have been used as a model for best practice for their improved client centered clinic processes. The Refugee Health Program received a Davis Productivity Award for their efforts. TB is participating in the monthly TB SIG calls for electronic health records. The TB module is completely electronic and has transitioned to the E-prescribe module as well. Also participating is a special workgroup for the development of the new radiology component using our care stream software to improve physician access to radiology tests and improved, immediate clinical impressions and interpretations to be entered directly into HMS by the physicians. This will improve our turn around time on both active and latent treatment starts. TB is also involved in the Area 5 TB system of care work group for case management. Patrice Boon is co-leading the group with Dr. Stevens from Orange County. This is a comprehensive regional group which will assess regional assets and how they can be utilized to manage our level 2 clients in the new TB system of care model.

School Health



The School Health staff attended the Florida School Health Association Conference May 8 to May 10th. The nurse team has been hand delivering information packets to Seminole County private schools with important information on how to keep immunizations updated with their students, info on health department services and school health services. They've received positive feedback from the schools on this information. Links to this info will also be available through our web page. Our nurses are also conducting private school screenings. The School Health team met on May 15th to go over screening processes and procedures for next year and had an opportunity to make revisions and efficiencies.

Teenage Outreach Program

Sherene Samuels joined the TOP family as a TOP facilitator. She will be implementing the curriculum with teens in our county and co-facilitating in other counties. Sherene and Cuqui Palau (cross-trained) will be attending the TOP Facilitator training June 4-6th. LaMiriam Johnson will be delivering this training. LaMiriam and Sherene will be taking part in the statewide TOP Facilitator recertification June 26 — June 28th.

Remember to



because

- Recognition becomes fun
- Appreciation becomes a habit
- Positive communication becomes a culture



June Birthdays

Rodney Jones - June 5

Lee LeBlanc - June 6

Susan Park - June 11

Terry Auer—June 22

Ileana S. Rosa Alvarez—June 24

Getcha Cantave—June 26

**We wish you
many happy
returns!**

The FDOH in Seminole County is on the Path to Accreditation

The Florida Department of Health is pursuing accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board by September 30, 2014. Florida, as an integrated public health agency, is seeking a single accreditation decision for the state office and all 67 county health departments. Florida is applying under the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) centralized state model. The centralized model is a two-step process which begins with the state health office followed by the county health department. The table below shows the schedule of key milestones in the process.

Applicant	Statement of Intent	Application Submission	Final Documentation Submission	Accreditation Decision
State Office	4/22/13	6/30/13	9/30/13	
County Health Departments	4/22/13	9/30/13	3/31/14	9/30/14

Where are we in the process?

There are three prerequisites which must be completed be-

fore the application process can begin.

- A Community Health Assessment (CHA), which was conducted with Community Partners over the last couple of years.
- A Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) which has been developed, based on the assessment. We are in the process of putting a few finishing touches on this document, and then it will be ready to go.
- Finally, a CHIP Alignment Document is required to demonstrate where Semi-

has begun on this prerequisite and we should have everything ready to submit to Tallahassee by the June 30 deadline set by the state.

Who are the Accreditation Team?

Moving forward requires a total FDOH in Seminole County team effort. We are in the process of forming an Accreditation Team with representation from all programs. We are looking for team members with a passion for public health, extensive knowledge and experience in a specific program area, and time available to devote to accreditation activities and meetings (analytical skills are helpful). Please let your supervisor know if you have a strong desire to serve on this committee. We will be contacting our HD leadership soon for membership recruitment. Once formed, we will introduce the team to you. Bertie Barber is the Accreditation Team Leader.

Seminole County's CHIP lines up with state and national priorities. Work

The following article by Adewale Troutman, MD, MPH, MA, CPH appears in the July 2013 issue of the *The Nation's Health*, the official newspaper of the American Public Health Association, for which he is currently the president.

Turning our growing focus on social determinants of health into practice

The health of the nation has dramatically improved over the past century. Life expectancy has increased and infant and maternal mortality have decreased. We have seen improvements in the diagnosis and management of acute and chronic conditions. Throughout this period, public health has been at the forefront of success.

In spite of improvements, there is a persistent and increasing gap in health outcomes and status within and between countries. And the gap is growing in many instances. Terms such as "minority health," "excess death," "years of potential life lost" and "health disparities" – which have almost universally been used to describe the health of communities of color and poor folk – are giving way to the phrase "health equity." The health equity focus has widened the view to include sexual orientation, disability status and other factors. But the

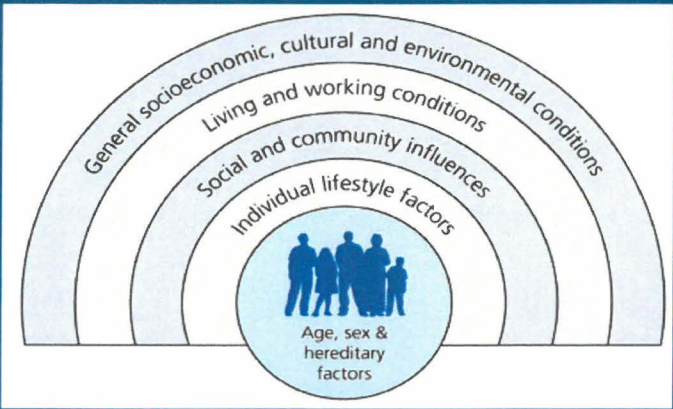
gap remains.

The comedian Jackie "Moms" Mabley is said to have put it this way: If you continue to do what you always do, you will get what you always got. I believe those sentiments fit our nation's health crisis. The medical model cannot close the gap. We must do things differently and we must focus on social determinants of health as the vehicle to bring about health equity.

There are many factors that are social determinants of health. My list includes socioeconomic factors such as occupation, education, income, housing, racism, discrimination, power and access to health services. "The Social Determinants of Health: The Solid Facts," a publication of the World Health Organization, lists factors such as early childhood development, work, unemployment, addiction and social isolation, which is linked to poverty. Further, it says that social determinants of health is also shorthand for economic, political, cultural and environmental determinants of health.

I recall the days of the civil rights movement, when the conversation was about freedom, justice and equality and we didn't shy away from it. I believe we must place the issue where it belongs: focused on justice and equity.

It is true we need a stronger scien-



Social Determinants of Health

tific base. WHO recognized that years ago and formed work groups to address the issue. More importantly, we must find the way to turn our focus on the social determinants of health into practice and policy.

"Closing the Gap: Policy into Practice on Social Determinants of Health," a WHO discussion paper created for a 2011 global conference on the topic, focused on five themes for countries to focus on governance to tackle the root causes of health inequities, promoting participation, the role of the health sector, global action on social determinants of health, and monitoring progress.

We must build on the moral imperative for addressing the social determinants of health and we must recognize that we need a long-term, sustained involvement of multiple sectors that influence them.



The Safety Committee at our health department consists of staff from varied areas of FDOH Seminole and includes; the Safety and Workers' Compensation Coordinator, assigned Fire Warden, Facilities Manager, supervisory and non-supervisory staff. The committee is responsible for initiating and maintaining the requirements of the Safety Program. The Safety Committee meets no less than bi-monthly to review, update, and maintain the Safety Program. The Safety Committee meets on the fourth Thursday of each odd numbered month and is chaired by the Safety Coordinator. In the event of an emergency or threat within any FDOH Seminole facility, FDOH Seminole is required to assume overall responsibility for the response, management, and conclusion to the incident.



On May 13, Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) in conjunction with the City of Casselberry unanimously passed a resolution urging tobacco retailers to stop the sale and marketing of flavored tobacco products.

A press release went out on May 24 in anticipation of World No Tobacco Day on May 31st. The press release included the following, "The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County addresses tobacco advertising and promotion, working at the local level and focusing on retail environments that target youth. The following are efforts to prevent youth tobacco use:

- In June 2011 Gov. Rick Scott signed a law amending the Florida Clean Indoor Air Act, giving school boards the authority to designate all district property as tobacco free. Currently, The Seminole County Public Schools system has had a tobacco free policy effective since June 2012.
- Seminole County has two cities in the county that have passed resolutions urging local vendors to cease the sale and marketing of all candy-flavored tobacco products, which are widely considered to be starter products.

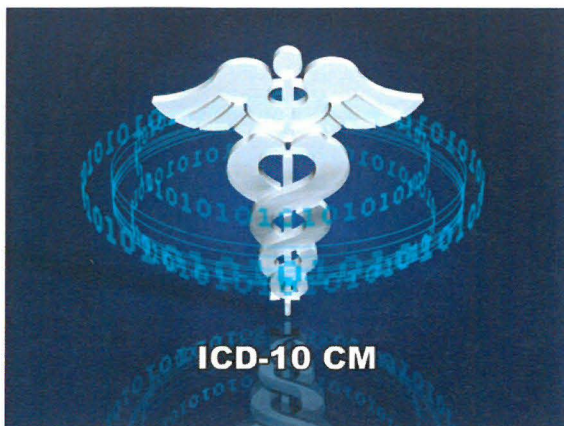
- County advocates are working to encourage and assist multi-unit housing properties to go smoke-free, not only protecting Floridians from toxic secondhand smoke, but de-normalizing tobacco use.

Additionally, 20 Florida colleges and universities, including University of Central Florida, have taken the bold step to enact 100 percent smoke-free campus policies.

"Expanding the Tobacco Free Florida Program is essential to improving the lives of Seminole County citizens and reduce the impact of morbidity and mortality," said Dr. Swan-nie Jett, Health Officer of the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County."

FREE Tools to Quit Program

For clients and staff that would like to quit tobacco use, we are offering a Tools to Quit program free of charge. The program will take place on Thursday, June 20, from 1:30—3:30 and will offer free nicotine replacement patches, carbon monoxide testing, and other materials. For more information and/or to register please call 1-877-252-6094.

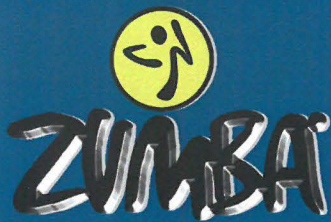


ICD-10 Coming Soon to an Office Near You

Have you heard that an all new system of coding patient diagnosis's will be coming out in October of 2014? This is the biggest change in coding in years and will have a huge impact on all health care billing. ICD-9 is becoming ICD-10 and the changes are far greater than a digit. Under the current system of ICD -9, there are approximately 14,000 different diagnosis codes and 3,824 procedure codes. Under ICD-10 coding we will have over 68,000 diagnosis codes and more than 72,000 procedure codes to code our services under. As you can guess, this changeover will be monumental for health care providers and many changes to how we currently do business will be headed our way in the very near future. As we get closer to the cut-over date there will be much more information coming out on how this new process will work and we expect many trainings to occur between now and then. We will keep everyone informed as we learn more about what's to come.

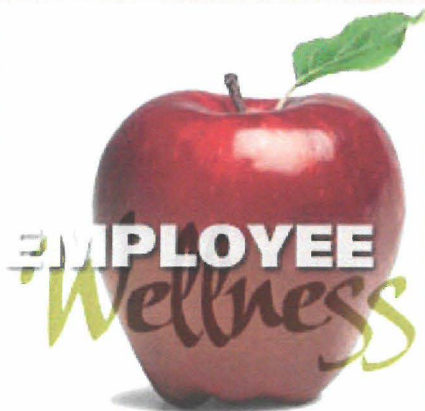


Remember Town Hall is Thursday, June 13th from 1:15-4:30 and will be held at the Lake Mary Event Center. We have a special video presentation from Dr. Jett as well as a special retirement planning presentation for all FRS members. The dress code for the Town Hall is casual.



Fitness

Our first Zumba session was held Monday, May 13th. Priscilla Kuchera graciously donated her time and energy to help us get started and 13 staff were able to enjoy this workout! Sessions are currently on hold pending a new instructor. We are currently coordinating to offer these once or twice a week. We will soon be resuming, so stay tuned for more updates.

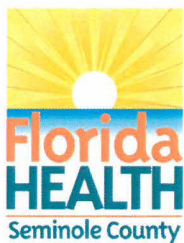


The Employee Wellness committee's goal is to support and improve the health and wellbeing of our employees while enhancing the quality of our staff's work experience. Since 2006 our Employee Wellness team has coordinated and implemented several health promotion initiatives and activities such as the annual Employee Wellness Event, Walk to Lose challenges, the annual Breast and Cervical Cancer Pink Lemonade event, and our Fresh Fruit Market. Keep an eye out for new initiatives and more opportunities to support your wellness goals through the year!

For more information about our wellness team or how to join, please contact Gigi Rivadeneyra at x3382

Upcoming Wellness Events

- Fresh Fruit Kabob (Summer)
- Pink Lemonade Event (Fall)
- Biggest Loser Challenge (Coming Soon!)



On May 23, 2013, Team MODE hosted The Sweet Treats Event which showcased baked goodies by our very talented staff. Take a look!

There were smiles all around!!

